



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Butler County Public Health

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February 2, 2023

Iowa Utilities Board  
1375 E. Court Ave.  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Board Members,


Re: Docket No. HLP-2021-0003, Navigator Heartland Greenway, LLC

The Butler County Board of Health, Butler County Public Health, and Butler County Environmental Health submit this letter in opposition to the Navigator Heartland, LLC Greenway CO<sub>2</sub> pipeline project.

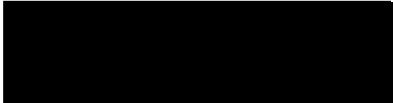
The Butler County Board of Health has jurisdiction over public health matters within Butler County (Iowa Code Section, § 137.103.2022). Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) occurs naturally in the atmosphere and is produced by the human body, so it is often perceived to be relatively harmless. However, as concentrations increase, CO<sub>2</sub> displaces oxygen – which may cause a range of negative health impacts, including suffocation. Because CO<sub>2</sub> is colorless, odorless and heavier than air, an uncontrolled release may spread undetected near the ground or in confined spaces. Material data sheets for CO<sub>2</sub> tells us that it is an asphyxiant which simply means it can kill humans, livestock, pets and wildlife because it displaces the oxygen needed by humans and animals to live. It is also important that we promote public health by protecting our groundwater from contamination which can occur during pipeline constructions, while in-service, or as a result of pipeline rupture or leak.

We believe one of our most important responsibilities as public officials is to ensure the health and safety of Butler County residents. Due to the limited evidence on the long-term safety and benefits of CO<sub>2</sub> pipelines, we request that you deny the proposed pipeline project by Navigator Heartland Greenway, LLC CO<sub>2</sub> project. We appreciate your attention and consideration of our positions.

Sincerely,

  
Greg Barnett  
Butler County Board of Health  
Chair

  
Misty Day  
Butler County Environmental Health  
Administrator

  
Jennifer Becker  
Butler County Public Health  
Director

Filed with the Iowa Utilities Board on February 28, 2023, HLP-2021-0003

BUTLER COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE  
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Iowa Utilities Board  
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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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